

**Security Council**

Distr.: General
17 July 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 16 July 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

With reference to the press remarks made today by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator after the adjournment of the Security Council consultations on the Sudan and South Sudan, I should like to state the following facts:

(a) The military activities carried out by the Sudanese Armed Forces in Blue Nile and South Kordofan States were basically in response to the escalation of attacks by rebel armed groups, under the umbrella of the so-called Sudanese Revolutionary Front, against many places in those two states. The Government of the Sudan was duty-bound to uphold its responsibilities to protect civilians in those areas;

(b) With regard to the issue of humanitarian access in the two states, it is well known that the Government of the Sudan was the party that welcomed the tripartite initiative to deliver humanitarian assistance in those areas. However, the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North was the party that repeatedly rejected that initiative and deliberately impeded access to the affected people in areas under its control. Furthermore, the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North was the party that obstructed the polio vaccination campaign in the two areas, as well as putting hurdles before all efforts exerted under the auspices of the African Union High-level Implementation Panel to conclude a permanent ceasefire and cessation of hostilities that could pave the way for unhindered access and delivery of humanitarian assistance in the two states;

(c) Finally, the Government of the Republic of the Sudan reiterates its unwavering commitment to achieving lasting peace and stability in the two areas through a comprehensive political settlement in the context of the inclusive national dialogue initiative declared by the President, Omer Hassan Al-Bashir. In this regard, I call upon the international community to impress on the armed groups to join the national dialogue. We stress the fact that all the necessary guarantees would be granted to the armed groups to participate in the dialogue.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Rahamtalla Mohamed Osman Elnor
Permanent Representative

